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Representative
Laura Ruderman
45th District
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

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Laura Ruderman
45th District
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Olympia, WA 98504-0600

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TOWN HALL MEETINGS
Saturday, Feb. 23

- Carnation – 11am at the Carnation Fire Station
- Woodinville – 2pm at the Woodinville Library

Sunday, Feb. 24

- Kirkland – 1pm at the Kirkland Library



Representative
Laura Ruderman

Committees & Leadership: House Democratic Caucus (Vice chair), Appropriations, Technology, Telecommunications and Energy (Vice chair), Health Care

Dear neighbors,

In my last newsletter, I told you about some of the major issues facing our state. The Legislature is still tackling the same big three problems: traffic, the economy and public safety. Rather than repeat that information, I'd like to take this chance to give you news you can use about online government — and to hear what you think about traffic, the biggest problem facing the Legislature.

Traffic gridlock – Inside, you'll find a short survey about transportation. What's your daily experience with traffic? If you think it's a problem, what solutions do you support?

Online government – This newsletter also includes a list of web links to online government services. Washington state keeps winning awards for digital government — but we can do better.

Democracy is only strong when citizens are informed and involved, and digital government is the best way to give citizens the facts they need. Online government also offers the sharpest tool for business owners looking to cut through red tape and paperwork. We can do things better, faster, and cheaper by using the same techniques and technologies as leading local companies like Microsoft and Amazon.com.

I think our state should focus on two things: 1) Improving services for citizens; and 2) Helping businesses, especially small businesses.

Inside this newsletter is a guide to useful links for citizens and business owners. If you clip out the links and use any of the sites, please tell me what you think.

- How the state could improve online government?
- Is there a service the state should offer that we don't yet?

I'm interested in your thoughts and ideas, and I hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Rep. Laura Ruderman, 45th District



Rep. Laura Ruderman
Hotline: 800-562-6000
Hearing impaired: 800-635-9993
Office: 360-786-7822
PO Box 40600
410 Legislative Building
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
ruderman_la@leg.wa.gov
www.leg.wa.gov/house/members/d45_2.htm

Guide to Online Government

- Help with environmental permits www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/pac/index.html
- Find a contractor <https://wws2.wa.gov/lni/bbip/contractor.asp>
- Be an informed and active citizen**
- Contact your lawmakers or research legislation www.leg.wa.gov/
- Online voters' guide www.vote.wa.gov/
- Research laws or regulations search.leg.wa.gov/pub/textsearch/default.asp
- Watch floor debates and public events on TVW (our state's version of C-Span) www.tvw.org/
- How your state services are funded www.ofm.wa.gov/voters/chart.htm
- Order copies of vital records (certificates of birth, marriage, divorce or death) www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/CHS/cert.htm
- Sign up for e-mail newsletters or start your own (topics from A to Z) listserv.wa.gov/archives/uselist.html
- Travel**
- Live traffic congestion map and camera feeds <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/PugetSoundTraffic/cameras/>
- Statewide traveler information traffic.wsdot.wa.gov/
- Traffic and travel conditions www.wsdot.wa.gov/traveler.htm
- Mountain pass reports traffic.wsdot.wa.gov/sno-info/
- Rail and transit www.wsdot.wa.gov/RailTransit.htm
- Train reservations and tickets www.wsdot.wa.gov/pubtran/passrail/
- Commuter page www.wsdot.wa.gov/choices/
- Renew your driver's licenses www.wa.gov/dol/drivers/dl.htm
- Register your vehicle or change the title www.wa.gov/dol/vehicles/tr-new.htm
- Renew your car license tabs <https://wws2.wa.gov/dol/vehtabs/>
- The outdoors**
- Reserve a campsite www.parks.wa.gov/reserve.asp
- Get a hunting or fishing license www.wa.gov/wdfw/faq/licfaq.htm
- State parks www.parks.wa.gov/
- Recreation and parks access.wa.gov/government/awrecreat.asp
- Jobs**
- Find a new job www.go2worksource.com
- Job resources (big list) access.wa.gov/government/awemployment.asp
- File a claim for unemployment benefits www.wa.gov/esd/ui/icapp/start.htm
- Health, family services & jobs directory www.awrd.org

State home page, indexes and search pages

- Washington state home page access.wa.gov
- All state services (alphabetical) access.wa.gov/government/awsubject.asp
- Find it! Washington access.wa.gov/search/

Crime, fraud and whistleblowers

- Do a criminal background check <https://watch.wsp.wa.gov/default.asp>
- Report fraud www.lni.wa.gov/fraud/
- File a whistleblower complaint www.sao.wa.gov/Whistleblower/AbouttheProgram/WBProgram.htm

Protect yourself as a consumer

- Do consumer research or avoid scams www.wa.gov/ago/consumer/
- Report a consumer complaint www.wa.gov/ago/consumer/forms/
- File a complaint about insurance www.insurance.wa.gov/complaint.htm
- Shop around for insurance www.insurance.wa.gov/resourcesforconsumers.htm

Find unclaimed property or buy surplus goods

- Search for unclaimed property or money www.dor.wa.gov/unclaim/search.asp
- Buy surplus property or equipment www.ga.wa.gov/surplus/pubinfo.htm

For business owners and professionals

- Operating a business in Washington state www.wa.gov/dol/bpd/operate.htm
- Master business license www.wa.gov/dol/forms/700028.htm
- File taxes online access.wa.gov/onlineservices/taxcenter.asp
- Business Assistance Center edd.cted.wa.gov/bac/
- Professional and occupational licenses www.wa.gov/dol/main/biglist.htm

Survey

Traffic: What do you think?

- 1. How would you rate traffic as a problem in your daily life?
☐ Not a problem ☐ Occasional nuisance
☐ Constant problem ☐ No. 1 frustration
- 2. Each week, how much time do you typically spend sitting in traffic?
_____ minutes _____ hours
- 3. What features do you want in a transportation plan?
All money raised in a county stays in that county ☐ Yes ☐ No
Widening local highways that are clogged ☐ Yes ☐ No
Better bus and train service ☐ Yes ☐ No
Train or bus service to SeaTac airport ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 4. How much would you pay (in gas tax per month) to unclog traffic?
☐ Nothing; cut other programs ☐ \$1
☐ \$2 ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ More
- 5. If you'd pay for a transportation plan by cuts, what should get cut?
☐ Schools and colleges ☐ Health care
☐ Prisons, courts and law enforcement
☐ Services for children, seniors or the disabled
☐ Trade and economic development
☐ Environment ☐ Other

